

#### Fact Sheet

# Prisoner Operations

- ▶ The U.S. Marshals Service is responsible for the custody of federal prisoners beginning at the time of arrest and ending when prisoners are acquitted, arrive at a designated Federal Bureau of Prisons facility to serve a sentence or are otherwise ordered released from Marshals custody.
- ▶ The Marshals Service ensures the safe, humane care and custody of more than 220,000 federal prisoners each year.
- ▶ The agency provides housing, medical care and transportation for an average daily population of about 59,000 federal prisoners throughout the U.S. and its territories and produces prisoners for all court-ordered appearances.

Fiscal 2013 Data	
Total expenditures for federal prisoners in U.S. Marshals custody*	\$1.49 billion
Total average daily detention population	59,542
State and local facilities	35,777
Federal Bureau of Prison facilities	11,930
Private facilities (contracted)	11,508
Medical facilities	327
Prisoners received	220,952
Agreements with state and local governments for use of detention space	approx. 1,800
Contracts with privately managed detention facilities	15
Average daily rate paid per prisoner	\$74.63

<sup>\*</sup>Funded by Federal Prisoner Detention appropriation (separate from U.S. Marshals Service appropriation)

# **Prisoner Custody**

- ▶ The Marshals Service brings all individuals arrested on federal offenses before a U.S. magistrate or U.S. District Court judge for their initial court appearances. The court determines if they are to be released on bond or remanded into the custody of the Marshals Service to await trial. If convicted at the conclusion of the case, the Marshals Service delivers prisoners to the designated Federal Bureau of Prisons institution to serve their sentence.
- ▶ The Marshals Service does not disclose any personal information, location held, court scheduling or other inmate information other than to verify an inmate is in federal custody.
- Prisoner mug shots (booking photos) cannot be released for privacy reasons. (For the full policy, see www.usmarshals.gov/foia/policy/booking\_photos.pdf.)
- ▶ The task of holding federal prisoners presents challenges that are diverse and complex, such as:
  - Finding bed space near federal courthouses to house federal prisoners
  - Managing prisoners with contagious diseases and terminal illnesses
  - Coordinating with federal, state and local authorities about writs, court orders and transferring prisoners between the various levels of the criminal justice system

## **Prisoner Housing**

- ▶ The Marshals Service does not own or operate detention facilities but partners with state and local governments through more than 1,800 intergovernmental agreements that are used to house more than 35,000 prisoners throughout the U.S. and its territories. In addition, the agency contracts with 15 private facilities to house more than 11,000 prisoners and the Federal Bureau of Prisons to house an additional 11,000 prisoners.
- ▶ The Marshals Service annually reviews facilities that house federal prisoners to ensure the safe, secure, and humane care and custody of those prisoners.

#### **Prisoner Medical Care**

- ▶ The Marshals Service provides medically-necessary health care to prisoners within its custody.
- ▶ The agency is limited to paying Medicare rates for the medical services provided to its prisoners, per 18 U.S. Code § 4006.

### **Prisoner Forecasting**

- ▶ The Marshals Service monitors the federal detention population and prisoner movement throughout the court process and tracks law enforcement and prosecutorial initiatives that affect the federal detention population and the need for detention space.
- ▶ The agency develops statistical models and simulations to forecast future requirements and potential impacts of legislation, law-enforcement policy initiatives and emerging law-enforcement trends.